

HUERTA NOT
PLEGDED TO
SALUTE FLAG

Has Merely Replied to U. S.
Demand with Counter
Proposals.

SITUATION AGAIN
AT DANGER POINT

Wilson, Exasperated, Sends
"Final Message" Warn-
ing Dictator.

DECLARES MEXICO
MUST FIRE SALUTE

President Will Consider No Alter-
native and Warships Will
Not Be Halted.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Mexico City, April 17.—The substance of the reply of the United States government to the demand of President Huerta that there should be simultaneous salutes fired by the Americans when the Mexicans salute the American flag was delivered verbally to-night by Nelson O'Shaughnessy, the American Chargé d'Affaires, to Señor Portillo, the Foreign Minister.
The reply, it is said, was unfavorable to an early adjustment of the situation. The matter was considered to-night at a Cabinet meeting which lasted three hours.
Señor Portillo, the Foreign Minister, said before the meeting that he was confident the controversy between Mexico and the United States would be amicably settled in the negotiations between Nelson O'Shaughnessy and the Huerta government.
The minister added that his government would regard a return salute by the United States in response to the Mexican salute of the American flag as a tacit recognition of the Huerta administration.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, April 17.—The Mexican situation is again acute. In fact, it is critical.
Huerta has not promised to salute the American flag. He has received the American demands for a salute and has replied with proposals of his own.

The expansive optimism of the administration yesterday was unjustified. It was intimated most clearly yesterday that information had been received that Huerta would fire the salute which Rear Admiral Mayo eight days ago demanded of the Mexican authorities at Tampico. The Secretary of State, in high good humor, assured foreign diplomats that the matter had been adjusted without war.
President Wilson is exasperated almost beyond measure by Huerta's attitude, and there was sent to Mexico City to-day what is described as "a final message" that the original American demand made by Rear Admiral Mayo stands and that the salute must be fired accordingly. The government of the United States will entertain no more counter proposals. The salute must be fired or reprisals will be initiated.

President Wilson Aroused.
President Wilson's feeling that the time has come for a settlement of the whole Mexican problem is growing stronger because of the manœuvres of President Huerta, which, in the opinion of diplomats stationed in Washington, threaten again to amount to a diplomatic triumph by Huerta over the United States.

It appears that the complacent hopefulness of yesterday was inspired by

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DAY OF REST FOR WILSON
President Hopes to Spend To-
morrow in West Virginia.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, April 17.—If there are no untoward developments in the Mexican situation, the President will leave Washington to-morrow night for White Sulphur Springs, to spend Sunday with Mrs. Wilson, who is recuperating there from the effects of the fall she received several weeks ago. If he makes the trip, he will return here early on Monday morning. It is not expected that there will be much change in the situation before Tuesday or Wednesday.
Secretary Bryan is still suffering from a severe cold, with violent coughing spells. He is eager to go to Florida for a rest, but will not leave Washington, he says, until he is assured that no serious trouble in Mexico will demand his presence here.

WINS RACE TO END LIFE
Youth Outdistances Crowd and
Leaps Into River.

[From The Tribune Correspondent.]
Passaic, N. J., April 17.—Ninth st. in this city was the scene of a thrilling suicide chase about 11 o'clock to-night. Andrew Kopac, a young man living at 154 9th st., suddenly jumped up in the room he occupied with Albert Jada and announced that he was going to commit suicide. Jada scoffed until his roommate darted from the house and ran toward the river.
Jada ran after him. His cries attracted other residents of the street, and soon there was a small party of pursuers on the trail of the young man who would end his life. Kopac outdistanced all pursuers, reached the end of the street and jumped into the dark waters. His body floated away in the night.

MAIER WATER BILL
VETOED AS A GRAB

Efforts of Attorneys for Private
Companies Vain with the
Governor.

Albany, April 17.—Governor Glynn vetoed to-night the Maier water bill, which was opposed by Mayor Mitchel, on the ground that it would prevent New York from furnishing Catskill water to Queens.
The Governor gave a week to the consideration of the arguments made to him on behalf of the measure by attorneys employed by the private water companies. It was admitted that the bill was in the interest of the water companies.
The killing of the bill by the Governor is regarded as a victory for Mayor Mitchel. It will also be gratifying to the Board of Commerce and the Merchants' Association, which were with the Mayor in his opposition.

C. W. FAIRBANKS HURT
Ex-Vice-President Injured in
Fall of Speakers' Stand.

Frankfort, Ind., April 17.—Ex-Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks was slightly injured to-day when the speakers' stand on the courthouse lawn here collapsed during the Arbor Day exercises.
With Mayor Gard and other officials Mr. Fairbanks was reviewing a parade of school children when the structure suddenly collapsed, throwing the occupants to the ground with the wrecked framework. Mr. Fairbanks sustained an injury to his right leg and numerous bruises about the body.

"BIG TIM'S" ASSETS
CALLED ELUSIVE

Far Easier to Find Liabilities,
Say Executors, Pleading for
More Time.

An intimation that the estate of "Big Tim" Sullivan would not amount to so much as has generally been supposed was given in the Surrogate's Court yesterday by counsel for Lawrence Mulligan and Patrick H. Sullivan, executors of the estate. The latter are half-brother and brother, respectively, of the dead politician.
The proceeding was in court on the motion of William Fox, the theatrical manager, who has a claim against the Sullivan estate for about \$30,000, and who obtained an order directed to the executors to show cause why they should not be punished for not filing their accounting as ordered. Counsel for Fox said that creditors were clamoring for payment, and yet Sullivan and Mulligan make no effort to file an inventory.
Oliver B. Goldsmith, attorney for the executors, told Surrogate Cohan that the executors had trouble in finding the assets. "It is far easier to find the liabilities than the assets," said the attorney. Some of the assets, he added, have deteriorated so that the present value cannot easily be determined. Surrogate Cohan gave the executors an extension of two weeks to file their inventory.

HELEN TAFT SEEKS A VOTE
Joins Suffragists, Although
Mother Is an "Anti."

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
Hartford, Conn., April 17.—The Connecticut Woman Suffrage Association learned to-day that the latest recruit to the cause is Miss Helen Taft, a student at Bryn Mawr, and whose mother, Mrs. William H. Taft, has declared her allegiance to the Connecticut Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage.
The president of the Connecticut Association suffragists, Mrs. Thomas N. Hepburn, said:
"This action of mother and daughter is significant of the difference between the past and the 'present' generation."

WHITE-HAIRED DEMENTED MAN SHOTS AT MAYOR;
POWDER BURNS EAR; CORPORATION COUNSEL WOUNDED;
MITCHEL DRAWS REVOLVER TO PROTECT HIMSELF

THE ATTEMPT TO KILL MAYOR MITCHEL.



ALMOST EXPECTED ATTACK,
MAYOR TELLS PRESS CLUB

Mr. Mitchel, Cool in Speech After Attempt on Life, Says
Such Peril Goes with Office—Shoes Lucky
Talisman That He Wore When Shot At.

Mayor Mitchel, with a jaw of steel and totally unlike a man who had escaped a funeral in the afternoon, told the members of the Press Club last night that his experience earlier in the day was one of the hazards that went with his office, at the same time wondering why such a thing should be possible.
He expressed the greatest concern for Frank L. Polk, who had received the bullet intended for the Mayor, and said he was glad to say that the Corporation Counsel's injury was not serious, but painful, and that he would be laid up for not more than a month.

Despite his experience in the afternoon, Mayor Mitchel discussed some of the big problems the city was up against and pleaded for genuine home rule.
After his speech the Mayor showed a little gold frog which had been presented to him in Costa Rica.
"Well, here's my lucky talisman," he smiled. "I guess this is what saved my life."
Percy Howard, the toastmaster, introduced the Mayor, saying:
"Thank God the Mayor is with us!"
He was cheered for five minutes before he began his speech. Mr. Howard's remarks were echoed by Talcott Williams. The Mayor said in part:
"The experience of this afternoon is, of course, one to impress itself on any man's mind. I said, in answer to a question put to me by one of the representatives of the press at the City Hall, that I had been almost expecting some such thing; not because I had any reason to expect it, not because there is any reason why such a thing should happen in a civilized community ordered by laws, as is ours, but because I know that life in a democracy, where there is progress, where new things are being established, is more or less of a battle, and in a battle almost anything is likely to happen."
"And in a community as great as is New York, as complex as is New York, as cosmopolitan as is New York, there are always a few unfortunate, disordered minds that find expression for their illogical thought in such acts as that of this afternoon."
"Of course, I am grateful for my own

escape, but may I say that I do most devoutly thank God to-night for the escape of my good friend, that splendid fellow, one of the very best whom I have known, Frank Polk (Applause), and that the assurance I had from his surgeon when I left the hospital late this evening that the wound, while it would prove painful and annoying and would incapacitate him for perhaps a couple of weeks, would not prove dangerous, and in all probability would not even prove disfiguring. (Cries of 'Good! Good!')

"It was suggested, I know, when that thing happened—in fact, there seems to be some basis for believing—that it was the act of individuals, or of several who were in concert, and some people asked me if I thought that it was the result of any concerted plan by any group in the community. Now, I am very glad to be able to believe, and believe confidently, that we have not come to the point in this city or in this country, and that we never will, where things of that kind are the result of concerted action by any group. We have not plots, we have not nihilism in this country."

"When such a thing as that does happen it is the product of the disordered brain of some unfortunate individual, as was that this afternoon—the man who does not think straight, who warps the facts that he partly gathers from the daily press in recording the action of government."
"I say I am happy to believe that we have not come to that point in this community, and it is for us who are charged with the duty of conducting the government to see that we shall not come to that point; to say that the people of the city had the opportunity for the free expression of their own ideas; to use the language of Mayor Gaylor, that they are not 'bottled up,' that they have ample opportunity to express themselves, so that they keep within bounds of the law, and that they do no violence against persons or against property."

"And I believe that honest government on the part of public officials is the best guarantee that we never will come to a time where we have to fear that such accidents are the result of any concerted action on the part of any group in the community."

LOS ANGELES RICHES EVEN
Has More Real Estate Owners
Than New York.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
Los Angeles, April 17.—Los Angeles County was declared to-day by County Assessor Hopkins to be the foremost county in the United States in point of even distribution of its wealth.
Greater New York, comprising approximately six and a half times as many residents, contains approximately 10,000 fewer individual pieces of real estate.

INSANE WHILE A BANKER
Autopsy Proves Man's State-
ment of Himself Was Correct.

Chicago, April 17.—A tumor at the base of the brain of Dr. William T. Kirby, formerly a private banker, who died here yesterday, was found to-day by physicians conducting an autopsy. Kirby had requested that his brain be examined to prove his contention that he was insane.
Physicians who conducted the autopsy said the late physician-banker was right when he declared he was insane during the period that closed his career as a banker.

Frank L. Polk Struck in
Chin by Shot Aimed at
City's Chief Official.

POLICE COMMISSIONER
SNATCHES WEAPON

Attempt Made When Party
Enters Auto in Park Row,
Opposite City Hall.

WOULD-BE ASSASSIN
MICHAEL MAHONEY

Evidently Insane Crank—Harps
on Goethals Incident—Injured
Attorney Will Recover

MR. POLK WILL BE OUT SOON.

At 2 o'clock this morning Mr. Polk was sleeping quietly. Dr. Hartwell, the family physician, who visited him late in the evening, said his wound showed no signs of blood poisoning, and that he would be up in two or three days. The bullet was removed from his jaw last night.

John Purroy Mitchel had his first taste of the possible death that confronts the Mayor of New York yesterday, when Michael P. Mahoney, shabby, half-demented man, shot directly at him, the powder burning right ear as he dodged and the striking Corporation Counsel, Frank L. Polk in the chin.

The Mayor had seated himself in his automobile in front of City Hall about 1:30 in the afternoon, and in his habit, his hand gripped the automatic pistol that he always carried in his right coat pocket when through the streets.

As the shot sounded and he felt the sting the Mayor half rose, tugging the pistol, which stuck in his waist. He wrenched it free and was ready to shoot back, when Police Commissioner Woods, who was standing by the machine, leaped at the would-be derider and grabbed him by the throat.

At the same instant the chief of John G. Neun, grappled with the assassin and the three rolled in the street. As they struggled three more piled on in football fashion. Commissioner Woods rose out of the writhing heap with the pistol, saying "I've got it!" and the next instant a police whistle sounded and patrolmen from the City Hall were surrounding the Mayor and his prisoner.

Mayor Mitchel, standing in the neu, had the blue automatic in hand and was looking about for one else who might want to kill. After a calm survey of the crowd came rushing at the sound of the shot and the unusual sight of the Mayor with a drawn pistol, he turned to Corporation Counsel Polk, who still beside him, holding his chin, which blood was pouring.

Stooping, the Mayor, still holding the revolver, helped Polk to his feet out of the automobile. As they slowly to the City Hall a Mayor had the revolver swing in his hand, and did not pocket it until he reached the station house. As they went up the path to the station he peering: "They meant it for you, they got you, Frank."

A brief examination by the surgeon showed the bullet entered left side of Mr. Polk's chin and out his right cheek, knocking out teeth. The wound, while painful, not serious.

The man who did the shooting, a political crank, a derelict, who has been laying for the Mayor for a week and nearly got him on Wednesday.

"His extravagances are ruining the city," he told the police. "He sold the city out for \$55,000,000 in bonds, which \$35,000,000 would have run the city for years."

Both the Mayor and his assailant were in the station house after the shooting surrounded by detectives and reporters when the Mayor, confronting him, said kindly: "Old man, why do you want to kill me?" Mahoney answered with a scraggly white beard a minute and looked at the Mayor dully. Then he shrugged his shoulders and mumbled "Huh!"